

Developmental Disabilities Council

Reading Cover Page

Date: July 24, 2006

Meeting: Public Policy Committee

Reading Number: 06-P7

Issue: Family Support

Included in this Reading:

Draft of Possible Family Support Legislation

Background/Summary:

Staff served with other advocates and DDD personnel on the interim Family Support Task Force to combine the existing Family Support programs into one, per legislative direction. The Division is developing a report that will reflect the agency's recommendations and the DD advocates are developing a possible bill to accomplish the consolidation differently.

Action:

Discuss and VOTE on support of the proposed concepts and legislation.

If there are any questions, please contact Donna Patrick at 1-800-634-4473 or donnap@cted.wa.gov

1 Individual & Family Services Bill

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3 Draft 3: August 28. 2006
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6 AN ACT Creating the Developmental Disabilities Individual and
7 Family Services Program and adding a new chapter to Title 71A
8 RCW.
9

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF
11 WASHINGTON:
12

13 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1 The Legislature finds that a developmental
14 disability is a natural part of human life and the presence of a
15 developmental disability in the life of a person does not diminish the
16 person's rights or opportunity to participate fully in the life of the local
17 community.
18

19 The legislature finds that investing in families with sons and
20 daughters living in the family home preserves a valuable natural
21 support system for the individual with a developmental disability and
22 is also cost effective for the state of Washington.
23

24 The legislature recognizes that providing support services to families
25 can help maintain the well being of the family and helps stabilize the
26 family unit.
27

28 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2 It is the intent of the Legislature to partner
29 with families as care providers for children with developmental
30 disabilities and adults who choose to live in the family home.
31

32 The Legislature also intends that individual and family services be
33 centered on the needs of the person with a developmental disability
34 and the family.
35

36 To the maximum extent possible individuals and families must be
37 given choice of services and exercise control over the resources
38 available to them.
39

40 NEW SECTION. Sec 3 The Legislature establishes the Individual
41 and Family Services Program for individuals eligible to receive
42 services under 71A RCW.

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44 This program shall replace Family Support Opportunities, Traditional
45 Family Support and the Flexible Family Support pilot program.
46 Funding associated with these existing family support programs shall
47 be transferred to the Individual and Family Services Program.

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49 NEW SECTION. Sec 4. Eligibility to receive services in the Individual
50 and Family Services Program will be determined solely by the
51 assessment of individual need, regardless of family income.

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53 The services provided under the Individual and Family Services
54 Program shall be funded by state funding without benefit of federal
55 match.

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57 NEW SECTION. Sec 5. The Individual and Family Services
58 Program shall have three service priority levels as follows:

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60 Level 1 shall include any combination of allowable services up
61 to a total of \$2,000 a year.

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63 Level 2 shall include any combination of allowable services up
64 to a total of \$4,000 a year.

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66 Level 3 shall include any combination of allowable services up
67 to a total of \$6,000 a year.

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69 The dollar caps for each service priority level shall be adjusted every
70 two years by the cost of living index.

71
72 NEW SECTION. Sec 6 The following services are allowable under
73 the Individual and Family Services Program:

- 74
75 • Respite care
76
77 • Childcare
78
79 • Therapies

- Architectural and vehicular modifications
- Equipment and supplies
- Specialized nutrition and clothing
- Homemaker services
- Transportation
- Training
- Counseling
- Behavior management
- Parent/sibling education
- Recreational opportunities
- Community Services Grants

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7 Individuals and families assessed to be on Level 1 shall have the option of receiving a single cash payment each year. At the time of the annual assessment the family shall present receipts for the services/equipment purchased before subsequent year cash award if granted.

Individuals and families assessed to be on Level 2 or Level 3, and those on Level 1 who choose, shall receive payment through a voucher for services rendered or equipment purchased.

NEW SECTION. Sec 8 The department shall assure that there is funding available, in addition to funding for the Service Priority Levels, for additional one-time exceptional needs and emergency needs that exceed the annual award.

118 Funding for one-time exceptional needs and emergency needs shall
119 also be available to individuals and families not receiving Individual
120 and Family Services annual grants to assist individuals/families who
121 experience a short-term crisis.

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123 For a person who has more complex needs or the family
124 experiencing a more prolonged crisis, the department shall make
125 every effort to move the person into a Home and Community Based
126 Services waiver program that can realize federal match.

127
128 For a person turning eighteen, the department, at the time of a
129 person's eligibility re-determination and assessment, shall determine
130 if the person's needs can better be met by Medicaid personal care, a
131 waiver or another program that can realize federal match.

132
133 NEW SECTION. Sec 8
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